



***MONTGOMERY COUNTY
2001 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE***

With a land area of 316,527 acres and contiguous with Washington, D.C. and the Potomac river, Montgomery County is frequently referred to as the "bedroom of Washington". The 2001 population for Montgomery county was 873,341 a 15 percent increase from the 757,027 in 1990 and the most popular county in Maryland. The county's ties to the federal government are not only residential, but it's commerce also is heavily influenced by the federal government. Agencies such as the National Institute of Health, the National Bureau of Standards and Department of Energy are located in Montgomery County. Bioscience, technology, law, finance and other dynamic industries make it a major Maryland business center.

The remaining one-third of the land area is still basically rural, agricultural, and open space. Aided by the new technology such as no-tillage farming and a farmland preservation program, the agriculture sector continues to thrive. Approximately 45 percent of the 526 farmers are full time, but over one-half of the 77,266 acres of farmland is owned by non-farm people.

The county's agriculture is typically central Maryland Peidmont farming. Cash grain and oil crops, dairy and livestock dominate agricultural production.

With a high percentage of small part-time farmers, there is a large horse population and a growing fresh produce industry that is marketed directly to the consumer.

MONTGOMERY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1999	Bu.	8,400	45.7	384,200
	2000		9,900	129.0	1,277,000
	2001		10,600	128.0	1,357,000
Corn for Silage	1999	Tons.	2,100	9.0	18,900
	2000		1,000	19.0	19,000
	2001				
Soybeans	1999	Bu.	15,400	28.0	431,200
	2000		15,600	44.9	700,000
	2001		12,900	35.5	458,000
Wheat	1999	Bu.	5,400	62.6	338,300
	2000		5,300	65.5	347,100
	2001		4,500	62.2	280,000
Hay	1999	Tons.	12,300	2.1	25,300
	2000		12,500	3.4	42,000
	2001				
Barley	1999	Bu.	900	83.7	75,300
	2000		800	61.3	49,000
	2001		700	77.6	54,300

Crop Production Rank among MD. Counties, 2001				Livestock Inventories Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 ¹	
Corn	15	Oats	³	Cattle	8
Wheat	12	Barley	14	Hogs	18
Hay	5	Soybeans	12	Sheep	8
				Milk Cows	10 ⁵

MONTGOMERY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Farm Numbers & Size</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms	669	561	526
Average Size (acres)	155	147	147
Land in Farms (acres)	103,377	82,470	77,266

<i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory Jan. 1	12,131	11,330	8,543
Hog Inventory Dec. 1	2,780	483	666
Sheep Inventory Jan. 1	1,765	1,015	905

<i>Average Number of Milk Cows</i>	1999	2000	2001
	2,000	1,800	

<i>Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.</i>	1999	2000	2001
	29,000	25,000	

<i>Value of Sales</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
	<i>----- Thousand Dollars -----</i>		
All Products	26,049	27,717	28,563
Crops	16,091	19,953	19,832
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products	9,958	7,764	8,731

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.

² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ Unranked - Data not published.

⁴ Revised.

⁵ 2001.

* Acreage too small to publish .

MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 2001

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	33.2	30.7	3.63	2.85
February	40.2	33.1	2.23	2.83
March	49.4	43.4	3.67	3.36
April	53.4	52.4	4.02	3.19
May	66.2	62.0	2.32	4.18
June	73.2	70.4	3.62	3.76
July	72.7	74.7	5.38	3.71
August	73.4	73.0	3.05	3.99
September	65.9	65.7	4.80	3.53
October	57.8	54.9	.12	3.34
November	44.4	44.9	1.74	3.30
December	29.0	35.1	2.10	3.07
Annual	54.9	53.4	36.68	41.11

Number frost free days for 2001 220

Normal frost free days 1961-1990 190

Highest temperature 06-12-00 96

Lowest temperature 01-22-00 10

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Compiled by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service
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